

IN WESTERN TENNESSEE.

Death of a Prominent Citizen.—
The Boon of Hope for the Race.
—News Notes.

Memphis, Tenn., Special.—

Much to the delight of her sons and daughters, Mrs. Fannie Turner has recovered from her illness. Miss Ida F. Thomas, a sister to Mrs. Lillie D. Turner, has closed her summer school, at Arlington, Tenn., and is preparing to resume her studies at Lemoyne Institute. Mrs. J. Fernandis James, after being absent from the city for several months, has returned and is stopping with Mrs. Lyman Wallace. Mrs. James is a member of one of the most aristocratic families in the South and perhaps no where in the entire country can there be found a mother and father who have taken more pains in raising their children and in living lives more worthy to be emulated, than did Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin J. Fernandis, of Columbus, Miss. A little over four months ago, Mrs. James received a telegram calling her to the bedside of her loving father. In going on a journey so sad, Mrs. James carried with her the sympathies of her many friends in Memphis; for there is not a woman, man or child in Memphis, who knows her, that does not love her for the love and affection she always showed for her parents. Conversations never grew so interesting that she did not refer to her mother and father. Friends innumerable prayed if the end was nigh, that this grand old man would be spared to see her for the last time on earth, his daughter for whom he had sent and who he had raised to that degree of superb womanhood that gives so much inspiration to all with whom it comes in contact.

A few days after she reached his bedside, surrounded by his wife, daughters, large family connections and friends, Brother Fernandis, (as he was familiarly called,) breathed his last. Mr. Fernandis was a prominent member of the Masonic order of his state and a fine carriage maker, and one of the most worthy citizens of his town. For twenty-five years he was superintendent of the leading Sunday School of his city and stood as high, both in religious and business circles as any man there. Mr. Fernandis leaves a wife, four daughters, a son and, many friends to mourn his loss.

It was interesting to note the speeches delivered at the memorial services, of the subject of this sketch, men took part who had known him from his earliest days to the time of his death. The opinion of all was that it was not necessary to preach his funeral, for, his whole life they said was a sermon. Having visited Memphis often your correspondent had

the pleasure of meeting him quite a number of times. Not long since he visited Memphis, in answer to the question, what he thought of the future welfare of our people, with that pleasant smile that always overshadowed his brow, he said God still lives and if our people would get close to the cross and pray without ceasing the time would come when the evils of which we now complain would be things of the past. He saw an exceedingly bright future for our people because he believed in the power of prayer. He seemed to love his enemies; he never complained; pleasant words and kind smiles he had for every one. He lived his three score years educated his children and was spared to see them all grown. He truly spent his whole life in uplifting his race, by first raising himself and his family. Oh, that I could say something to cause the church to take inspiration from this great character; I would feel that I was justly paid for this article. Brother Fernandis is not dead; he is sleeping in the arms of Jesus.

"And now he is himself at peace, where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest."

Round his bier his many friends stand as mourners and sadly murmur:

"He was a man: take him all and all;
We shall not look upon his like again."

BROWN BONES.

LINCOLN INSTITUTE, MO., NOTES.

Lincoln Institute opened Monday, Sept., 7, with 200 students; the first day and every day new students coming. This is quite an improvement over last year and is the largest in the history of the school. All sections of the country are represented, many coming from as far South as New Orleans, and Galveston, Texas.

All this is due to the energy, ability and industry of President B. F. Allen, who has the support and good will of the people of Missouri in particular, and the West in general; and who is building up one of the best schools in the country for Negroes.

A teacher of cooking has been added to the industrial department for young women and another to the industrial department for young men.

Very appropriate addresses were made by the members of the Faculty and students and the address of the day was made by President Allen, who spoke on the "Dignity of Labor." Mr. R. A. West, of the class of 1901, was elected as secretary to the president. Mr. West received his business training in the Bryant and Stratton Business College, Chicago.

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Miss F. D. Sprague, of Washington, is the new teacher of cooking and Messrs. P. A. Saunderson and A. J. Starnes, of Kansas City, will assist Mr. Reynolds in the industrial department.

The degree of A. M. was conferred on Mrs. J. S. Yates of the department of English, after a thorough course in one of the leading schools of the West.

The Buffaloes' excursion on the Jane Moseley last Sunday to Glymont and Summerset Beach was a general success.

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